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Remarks

Entry of the above-noted amendments, reconsideration of the application, and allowance of all claims pending are respectfully requested. By this amendment, claims 1, 12, 19, and 20 are amended and claims 21 and 22 are added. These amendments to the claims constitute a bona fide attempt by applicant to advance prosecution of the application and obtain allowance of certain claims, and are in no way meant to acquiesce to the substance of the rejections. Support for the amendments can be found throughout the specification (e.g., page 3, line 20 to page 4, line 3; page 5, lines 1-2; page 5, lines 20-22; page 8, lines 12-14; page 11, line 3 to page 14, line 20), figures (e.g., FIGS. 1-3), and claims (e.g., original claims 5, 6, 8, 14, 15, and 16) and thus, no new matter has been added. Claims 1-22 are pending.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 9 and 17 were indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant is merely deferring the rewriting of claims 9 and 17 in independent form, pending a determination of patentability of base claims 1 and 12.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Spradlin (U.S. Patent No. 5,946,623). Claims 12 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Connolly (U.S. Patent No. 6,023,504). These rejections are respectfully, but most strenuously, traversed.

For explanatory purposes, applicant discusses herein one or more differences between the claimed invention and the Office Action's citations to Spradlin and Connolly. This discussion,

however, is in no way meant to acquiesce in any characterization that one or more parts of the Office Action's citations to Spradlin or Connolly correspond to the claimed invention.

Applicant respectfully submits that the Office Action's citations to the applied references, with or without modification or combination, assuming, *arguendo*, that the modification or combination of the Office Action's citations to the applied references is proper, do not teach or suggest the one or more control components that route the one or more toll-free calls to the one or more mobile phones, as recited in applicant's independent claim 1.

Spradlin (column 9, lines 1-8) discloses:

In another alternative embodiment, for example, the signal transmitted by WTU 10 corresponds to an 800 or other toll-free number associated with home service location 40, and mobile telephone switching office 24 queries a database in order to translate that toll-free number to a regular telephone number corresponding to home service location 40, to which it routes the call from WTU 10 for service.

Spradlin discloses routing a toll-free call *from* the WTU 10 to the home service location 40. Spradlin fails to disclose routing the toll-free call *to* the WTU 10.

Accordingly, the Office Action's citation to Spradlin fails to satisfy at least one of the limitations recited in applicant's independent claim 1.

Applicant respectfully submits that the Office Action's citations to the applied references, with or without modification or combination, assuming, *arguendo*, that the modification or combination of the Office Action's citations to the applied references is proper, do not teach or suggest connecting the one or more toll-free calls to one or more mobile phones associated with the one or more toll-free numbers, as recited in applicant's independent claim 12.

Connolly (column 3, lines 45 to column 4, line 3) discloses:

In FIG. 1, a typical sequence of a toll free call is as follows:

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1. The caller dials a UIFN eight digit number, NNNN NNNN prefixed by an + and 800 as explained above.
2. The call is routed via a local exchange (PSTN) to an international gateway 10 which sends the UIFN number to a switch/data storage control unit 11.
3. The unit 11 identifies the destination and routes the number through a selected x.25 packet or Intranet TCP/IP network (PSPDN), to a like control unit 12, providing the separate communication channel for supporting the toll free service.
4. The unit 12 translates the UIFN number to a PSTN number and determines the routing for communication back to the caller on the PSTN network. The unit sends a "MEET ME" call via an international gateway 13 and PSTN to the international gateway 10.
5. The gateway 13 relays the "MEET ME" call to the control unit 11.
6. The unit 12 also initiates a local call for the TNO to connect to the UIFN customer via a local PSTN.
7. When the UIFN customer answers, the control unit 12 monitors the call details, and creates records for settlement and the customer's bill.

Connolly discloses connecting the UIFN customer via the local PSTN. Connolly fails to disclose connecting the call to a mobile phone.

Accordingly, the Office Action's citation to Connolly fails to satisfy at least one of the limitations recited in applicant's independent claim 12 or independent claim 20.

For all the reasons presented above with reference to claims 1 and 12, claims 1, 12, and 20 are believed neither anticipated nor obvious over the art of record. The corresponding dependent claims are believed allowable for the same reasons as independent claims 1, 12, and 20, as well as for their own additional characterizations.

Withdrawal of the § 102 rejections is therefore respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 2-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Spradlin in view of Bolduc et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,681,008; "Bolduc"). Claims 4-8, 10-11, 14-16, and 18-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Spradlin in view of Bolduc and further in view of Connolly. Claim 13 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Connolly in view of Bolduc. These rejections are respectfully, but most strenuously, traversed.

For explanatory purposes, applicant discusses herein one or more differences between the claimed invention and the Office Action's citations to Spradlin, Connolly, and Bolduc. This discussion, however, is in no way meant to acquiesce in any characterization that one or more parts of the Office Action's citations to Spradlin, Connolly, or Bolduc correspond to the claimed invention.

Applicant respectfully submits that the Office Action's citations to the applied references, with or without modification or combination, assuming, *arguendo*, that the modification or combination of the Office Action's citations to the applied references is proper, do not teach or suggest the one or more control components that route the one or more toll-free calls to the one or more mobile phones, as recited in applicant's independent claim 1.

As described above, both Spradlin and Connolly fail to disclose routing the toll-free call to the mobile phone.

Bolduc (Abstract) discloses:

An automated toll-free telecommunications information service may be provided responsive to a user sending an E-Mail request via the Internet or by a caller dialing a toll-free telephone number and announcing a voice request. A service node interprets the request and collects matches to the request from a database. A match to a request may comprise the identity of an entity

corresponding to the match, a toll-free number for the match and a brief information sketch describing the entity. The matches are announced and played for the caller. The caller may barge in with a predetermined voice announcement such as "please dial" when they wish to select an item of the list. In response, the service node initiates the launch of a call to the selected entity.

Bolduc discloses the automated toll-free telecommunications information service. Bolduc fails to disclose the one or more control components that route the one or more toll-free calls to the one or more mobile phones.

Accordingly, the Office Action's citation to Bolduc fails to satisfy at least one of the limitations recited in applicant's independent claim 1.

The Office Action's citations to Spradlin, Connolly, and Bolduc all fail to meet at least one of applicant's claimed features. For example, there is no teaching or suggestion in the Office Action's citations to Spradlin, Connolly, or Bolduc of the one or more control components that route the one or more toll-free calls to the one or more mobile phones, as recited in applicant's independent claim 1.

For all the reasons presented above with reference to claim 1, claims 1, 12, and 20 are believed neither anticipated nor obvious over the art of record. The corresponding dependent claims are believed allowable for the same reasons as independent claims 1, 12, and 20, as well as for their own additional characterizations.

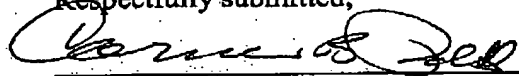
Withdrawal of the § 103 rejections is therefore respectfully requested.

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In view of the above amendments and remarks, allowance of all claims pending is respectfully requested. If a telephone conference would be of assistance in advancing the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call applicant's attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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